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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 44 No. 101 Pages: 12 Rs. 2.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 22 / 23
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MYSURU Sunday 30th May 2021
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Sunday treat: Mysuru meat lovers rush to Mandya

People crowd the KRS market in Mandya to purchase meat and fish this morning. Picture right shows meat and fish products sold in vehicles by the side of Belagola-Pump House Road.

Srirangapatna, May 30 (Vinay Karekura&BCT)- The two-day a week opening of meat and fish shops in Mysuru city and district has forced many meat eaters to enter Mandya this morning to grab their share of meat. They travelled in vehicles early in the morning to avoid Police action.

Meat is a favourite dish for many in Mysuru on weekends, especially Sundays. But today, due to the stringent lockdown announced by the Mysuru District Administration, many meat lovers were seen rushing to Srirangapatna, KRS, Belagola and surrounding villages that come under Mandya District to purchase meat and fish.

More than 500 people from Mysuru were found purchasing chicken, mutton and fish at Mogaralli Manti, a small village that is located on Mandya-Mysuru border and an equal number of people flocked the KRS meat and fish market. However, there was no semblance of social distancing in the markets and the entire place was jam-packed.

Sensing the demand, a few enterprising sellers sold the non-vegetarian products in auto-rickshaws on the Belagola-Pump House Road. Villagers said that usually people from Mysuru and local residents throng the markets every Sunday to purchase meat. But today there was an unusual rush as many from Mysuru city had come there for purchases.

Some of those merchants who sold meat and fish in Mysuru transported their products in autos to Mandya to be sold there. They said that the Mysuru District Administration had unscientifically imposed lockdown allowing only sales on Monday and Thursday.

"Very few people eat meat on Monday and Thursday and it is a loss for us. What else we can do to survive," Ahmed, who was selling fish in an auto rickshaw along with his son Mujeeb, told *Star of Mysore*.

(See MEAT on page 12)

After K.R. Hospital...

Tulsidas Hospital to get oxygen-generating plant

BAI, CREDAI CSR initiative through Mysore Builders' Charitable Trust

Mysuru, May 30 (BCT)- In a move that will augment oxygen manufacturing and supplies to Mysuru, BAI (Builders Association of India) Mysore Chapter and CREDAI (Confederation of Real Estate Developers Associations of India Mysore Chapter) under the aegis of Mysore Builders' Charitable Trust (MBCT) will donate a Medical Oxygen Generator Plant to Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital on JLB Road, which has been converted into a COVID Hospital.

Muralidhara *Ajit Narayan*

The oxygen manufacturing plant is the second one to come up in the city with the first one being the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) plant that is coming up at K.R. Hospital premises.

Such has been the demand that hospitals have been putting out SOS calls for more oxygen. With the two plants, Mysuru will get enough ammo to fight any oxygen crisis in the near future.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, BAI Chairman K. Ajit Narayan and CREDAI President N.S. Muralidhara said that the donation of Rs. 40 lakh for the oxygen plant under the aegis of Mysore Builders' Charitable Trust will be given from Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. "We are getting the plant from Vadodara (Baroda) and it will be operational before June 10. We have already paid an advance of Rs. 25 lakh," they said.

(See OXYGEN on page 9)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 30th May 2021

JK Group to support dependent families of staff dying of COVID

New Delhi, May 30 (Agencies)- JK Group has announced the JK CARES package to support dependent families of employees succumbing to COVID-19. The initiative includes continuation of the salary of deceased employees, covering their children's education and medical insurance for their families.

Bharat Hari Singhania

According to JK Group, which comprises companies such as JK Tyre that has a factory in Mysuru, JK Paper, JK Lakshmi Cement, JK Fenner, JK Agri Genetics, Umang Dairy and PSRI Hospital, the JK CARES package will benefit the dependent families of employees dying due to COVID between April 2020 and March 2022.

"Safety and well-being of our employees are of utmost importance for us. As part of our value of 'caring for people', we have been extremely mindful of the need to provide extended support to the families of our beloved employees, who have unfortunately lost their lives," JK Group Chairman Bharat Hari Singhania said.

"In case of any casualty of any of our employee, we will support the bereaved families on three fronts — financial support for the family by way of continuance of salary, education support for children and medical insurance for the family. All these support systems will be provided to the families for a number of years," he added. However, JK Group did not specify the number of years for which the affected families will be supported.

"Although, any kind of financial support cannot compensate for the magnitude of the loss of our beloved colleague(s); but it is our hope that this support will help the families to regain their confidence and dignity; and charter their journey of success, again," Singhania said.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

India's devastating COVID second wave has served a bitter lesson against complacent attitudes, including those that allowed mass gatherings. This lesson should shape all decision-making in the foreseeable future. Currently, Centre is involved in deliberations with States on deciding the modalities for conducting Class 12 CBSE board exams. Two options have been presented: One proposes regular exams only for the major subjects in August. The second option moots short duration tests involving multiple choice and short answer questions in two phases over July and August, recognising varying regional spread of the pandemic.

However, both options detain students in exam halls in an indoor setting: 180 minutes for option A and 90 minutes for option B. So both carry the risk of indoor exposure to the virus. The latest government scientific advisory even warns of aerosol spread up to 10 metres. Nor are the Class 12 students vaccinated. Many parents haven't got jabs either. Experts worry the next wave could predominantly hit school-goers for these reasons. Heed their advice and avert potential super-spreader events in this demographic. India is still detecting 2 lakh-plus cases daily, over two times higher than the first wave's peak. If July or August coincide with another wave, the whole process could be vitiated, prolonging the agony for students. If exams trigger COVID clusters, that isn't good either. Prioritise lives over exams. Decide wisely.

— In The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Using sunlight to turn apples into edible art work

Tokyo: 'Mojie Ringo' is a Japanese technique of harnessing the power of the sun to create beautifully decorated apples without the use of any sort of chemicals.

For centuries, apple growers in Japan's Aomori Prefecture have been creating stunning heirloom apples by using the mojie ringo technique. The process is fairly simple, as basically implies depriving the apples of sunlight for a period of time and then applying stencils to ensure that some portion of the apple peel remains discolored. Most often than not, mojie ringo apples are decorated with messages and symbols of good fortune and prosperity, and are offered as gifts.

Keeping the apples "in the dark" for long periods of time increases their photosensitivity, so when the plastic bags are finally removed, they begin to produce anthocyanin, a component that turns the skin red. During the final stage of the mojie ringo process, stencils are applied on the surface of the apple to ensure that only the skin around the stencil turns red.

Imagine working for Covid.inc during COVID pandemic

Arizona: Many of us have heard the word 'COVID' only last year when COVID-19 pandemic broke out, but it's actually the name of an Arizona company that has been operating for about four decades.

Covid.inc is a company based in Tempe, Arizona. It specializes in high-quality audiovisual wall plates and cables. Though it has been in business for decades, it was only last year that it started making news headlines, for obvious reasons. Covid.inc CEO Norm Carson, recalls the first time he learned that they shared the name of the disease that caused the latest pandemic in human history. He and his team were at a big show in Amsterdam in February 2020, on the day that the name COVID-19 was uttered for the first time and Carson remembers posing for countless pictures in front of his company's sign at their booth.

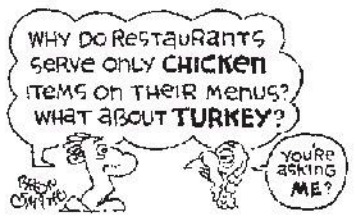
HEALTH CAPSULE

Do not ignore your gut health. Eat healthy; less spicy food, maintain your water intake and add fibres to your meal for healthy digestion. Note that active bowel is normal.

By Kavya J. - Department of Nutrition & Dietetics

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
A unit of ManipalHospitals

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



Turkey is a good protein source at 70%, yet it's low in fat, containing only 14% fat. Turkey is high in iron, zinc, phosphorus and potassium, as well as B Vitamins. What's more, it's inexpensive. Turkey is the ideal protein for a holiday meal.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAY 28	MAY 29
Day's Positive Cases	1,677	1,720
Total Positive Cases	1,38,365	1,40,085
Day's Discharges	1,804	2,176
Total Discharges	1,20,191	1,22,367
Day's Deaths	20	28
Total Deaths	1,576	1,604
Total Active Cases	16,598	16,114

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Admissions for JSS School, free Hostel at Suttur

Mysuru, May 30- Applications have been invited from eligible students for admission (2021-22) to classes from first to tenth standards at JSS School and Free Student Hostel at Suttur in Nanjangud taluk of the district.

The admissions are open for both English and Kannada mediums. The admissions will be only for children of parents belonging to the working class, poor, marginalised and deprived sections of the society.

Due to COVID-19, there will be no written admission test and interview. The prescribed application forms can be downloaded from website: ***www.jssonline.org*** OR ***www.jsskvk.in***

Applications, complete in all respects and supported by documents, must be sent through post to the Administrative Officer, JSS Institutions, Suttur, Nanjangud, Mysuru - 571129.

Admissions will be made in June. For details, contact Ph: 08221-232653 or Mob: 74114-86938.

REALLY...?

- ***Neptune was predicted mathematically before it was seen in 1846.***
- ***Galileo almost discovered Neptune in the 1600s.***
- ***Neptune was first observed in Berlin on September 23, 1846.***
- ***Discovery of Neptune was a big victory for Science and Math.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A question in computer exams: *What is Microsoft Excel?*

Kid wrote: *It's a new branch of Surf Excel to clean the computer !*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 72.41
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.78
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.71
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.27

VOICE OF THE READER

More on murals at magnificent Brihadeeshwara Temple in Thanjavur

[Pic: Courtesy Internet]

Sir,

In the popular article on the famous Brihadeeshwara Temple of Thanjavur, published in *SOM* dated April 27, the author, Prof. A.V. Narasimha Murthy, has made a passing reference to the mural paintings there. I would like to bring to your readers' attention a remarkable fact, relating to these murals.

This magnificent temple is known not only for its architectural grandeur and sculptural wealth but also for the beautiful mural paintings that adorn the walls of the circumambulatory passage around the sanctum. The earlier of these namely, the Chola period paintings might have been done soon after the construction of the temple in early 11th century CE.

However, by the 16th century, due to various deterioration-causing factors in the intervening five centuries, these Chola paintings might have undergone damage and portions of it might have been even lost.

It was the Nayakas who were ruling Thanjavur in the 16th century, after the fall of the Vijayanagar empire. They must have found the walls covered with these damaged paintings, with gaps in between, unsightly. (Besides, the concept of preserving old things, just as they were, was not prevalent at that time.) Therefore they had the entire painted surface re-plastered and got paintings done on this new plaster, in their own contemporary style. Thus, from the 16th century onwards, there were two layers of old mural paintings here, one superimposed over the other. This fact remained unknown to the outer world till modern times.

In 1935, Prof. Govindaswamy of the Annamalai University, who visited the temple with his students, discovered the presence of another layer underneath, due to a small portion of the Nayaka painting having fallen off. He rightly concluded that the lower layer must belong to the earlier Chola period and published his finding in a historical journal.

When the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) took this temple under their protection in 1946, one of their first tasks was to bring to light the hidden Chola paintings, which were not only much older than the superimposed Nayaka paintings but seemed to be of a much higher artistic quality.

As per the know-how available at that time, it was thought that the only possible way to achieve this was to chip off the over-lying Nayaka layer, in other words to sacrifice the Nayaka paintings in order to expose the hidden Chola paintings. This was how the Chola paintings were revealed. With impeccable line drawing and a refined colour scheme, these Chola paintings are in the classical style, represented by Ajanta. The Nayaka paintings are in what may be called the folk style.

When I took charge of the Southern Region of the Chemistry Branch of ASI in 1975, I found that in some areas of the circumambulatory passage, the Chola paintings had not yet been exposed and the two layers, one over the other, were still there. However, I thought that the 400-year-old Nayaka paintings had their own historical value and should not be sacrificed.

I devised a special technique for separating the two layers, by detaching the Nayaka layer carefully in panels of suitable size, remounting the detached Nayaka painting on fibre-glass and preserving the exposed Chola painting in situ. This was the first time, anywhere in the world, that two layers of old mural painting were successfully separated on this scale and both preserved. The work naturally received wide coverage in the national press — in dailies as well as journals. It also attracted international attention.

—S. Subbaraman
Sahukar Channaiah Road, Mysuru
20.5.2021

Get fresh fruits, vegetables at your doorsteps, courtesy HOPCOMS

Mysuru, May 30 (MTY&SSV)- Co-operation and District Incharge Minister S.T. Somashekar launched the sale of fruits and vegetables in vehicles by HOPCOMS across the city to make people stay indoors in the current strict lockdown being implemented in district to check the surge of COVID positive cases.

The District Administration has allowed people to buy essentials only on Monday and Thursday to avoid crowding in public places. On other days, all other shops and business establishments will remain closed till June 7. However, milk booths, medical shops and HOPCOMS outlets are allowed to do business.

To help people, the vehicles loaded in 25 mini goods vehicles with fresh fruits and vegetables will move across the city and sell the same to the citizens at their doorsteps till June 7.

The fruits and vegetables procured directly from farmers, will be sold to citizens at nominal rates. This is being done to prevent the people from crowding shops. A similar arrangement was made during COVID-19 lockdown last year.

The public can call Helpline number - 0821-2420066 to get fruits and vegetables at their doorsteps.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, MLAs S.A. Ramdas, L. Nagendra, HOPCOMS Chairman Annegowda, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, Horticulture Department Joint Director Nagaraju, Deputy Director Rudresh and others were present.

Bosch to repair non-working ventilators in Government Hospitals free of cost

Bengaluru, May 30 (SSV)- Multi-National Company Bosch has come forward to do free repair of all non-working ventilators in Government Hospitals, said Deputy Chief Minister and COVID-19 Ministerial Task Force Committee Chairman Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan.

He was talking to Bosch Vice-President Ramesh Saligrama here yesterday. The company has voluntarily come forward to undertake repair works of all the ventilators that have stopped functioning for want of repairs. There has been reports in media about non- functioning of ventilators in Government Hospitals.

The Minister said this issue came up for discussion during the meeting and the company VP readily agreed to repair them out of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. Welcoming the company's gesture, Dr. Ashwathnarayan has said that all the non-working ventilators at Government Hospitals will be identified and give the list to them, he added.

Govt. to discontinue Central allocation of Remdesivir to States

New Delhi, May 30 (SSV)- Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya said that the Government has decided to discontinue the Central Allocation of Remdesivir to States.

Talking to reporters here yesterday, he said directions have been issued to the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Agency and CDSCO to continuously monitor the availability of Remdesivir in the country.

The Minister said the production of Remdesivir has been ramped up ten times from 33,000 vials/day on April 11, 2021 to 3,50,000 vials/day today under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Minister further informed that the Government has also increased the number of plants manufacturing Remdesivir from 20 to 60 plants within a month. Now the country has enough Remdesivir as the supply is much more than the demand, he added.

The Centre has also decided to procure 50 lakh Remdesivir vials to maintain stock for the emergency, he added.

Digital lecture

Mysuru, May 30- As part of JSS Mahavidyapeetha's 'Jnana Varidhi,' a weekly online (virtual) lecture series, U.M. Revanna (employee at Nano-Soft, Singapore) will deliver a talk on 'Badukinalli Janapada' at 6 pm on May 31. Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji will grace the occasion. It can be accessed through: YouTube: ***http://Youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline*** OR Facebook: ***https://www.facebook.com/JSSMVP*** OR Website: ***http://jssonline.org***

COVID-19 HELPLINE

MYSURU
0821 - 2424111
0821 - 2957811
0821 - 2957711

For victim's funeral contact MCC
94498 - 41195
94498 - 41196
0821 - 2418800

Telecare
2420112/113
0821 - 2330803
0821 - 2331803

MANDYA
08232 - 224248
District War Room
08232 - 229393
Maddur Taluk
08232 - 232010
Malavalli Taluk
08231 - 242277
Srirangapatna Taluk
08236 - 252029
Pandavapura Taluk
08236 - 255128
Nagamangala Taluk
08234 - 285045
K.R. Pet Taluk
08230 - 262227

KODAGU
COVID Hospital
08272 - 220606
District Helpline
08272 - 221077
Madikeri
08272 - 228396
Virajpet / Ponnampet
08274 - 256328
Somarpet
08276 - 282045

CH'NAGAR
95386-74839
1077
Kollegal Taluk
08224 - 252046
Gundlupet Taluk
08229 - 222225
Yelandur Taluk
08226 - 240029
Hanur Taluk
08224 - 268032

For **COVID ASSIST** log on to website:
https://starofmysore.com/star-covid-assist/

'Open Library' at People's Park soon

A treat for book buffs

Mysuru, May 30 (MK&SSV)- What is the ultimate satisfaction you expect if you are a book buff? A nice novel of your favourite author, calm atmosphere amid greenery and a cuppa for brief relaxation.

B. Manjunath

Then you have to wait for sometime as the Department of Public Libraries is coming up with the concept of 'Open Library' in the premises of People's Park in city soon.

This library, in heritage style, has been constructed inside the Park at a cost of Rs. 4.99 crore and was opened for public last year. This has all modern facilities like digital library, separate section for those who wish to prepare for the competitive examinations, reference section, children's section, 36,000 titles of various languages including Kannada, Hindi and English. A beautiful landscaping has been done in the front, there is ample parking space and stone benches.

"With all these eco-friendly facilities, we are coming out with the concept of Open Library. Readers can pick up the book of their choice, open it in the serene atmosphere, sip the beverage in between and enjoy reading," said B. Manjunath, Deputy Director, Department of Public Libraries.

In fact, the footfall into the library has improved and this has made the Department to add further facilities.

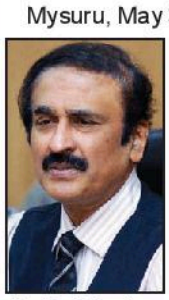
"Our library is opened not only for regular readers but also for researchers and Post Graduate students. This has UPS plus drinking water and other basic infrastructure. We subscribe 31 daily newspapers of Kannada, Hindi, English, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam. Besides, we subscribe 51 periodicals," he added.

Manjunath said other plans include Wi-Fi facility for its members for online reading, total computerisation to make it complete Digitech Library and charging points for laptops and mobile phones of members.

There is a small auditorium on the first floor of library which will be given for holding small book release or cultural events. Apart from this, even book talk, book exhibition and interaction programmes may be held. On top of it, a Green Cafeteria is planned in the premises, Manjunath added.

Online science lecture on COVID

Mysuru, May 30- Gravity Science Foundation, Chamarajanagar and Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA), Department of Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, has organised an 'Online Monthly Science Lecture Series - 10' on 'COVID - First phase to second phase and beyond' on May 31 at 5 pm.



Dr. Prabhudeva

The resource person is Dr. N. Prabhudeva, former Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, former Director, Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bengaluru and former Chairman, Karnataka Health Commission.

The webinar shall be conducted through Cisco WebEx. It is open for all. No registration fee. However, the participants should register initially and register by using this link: ***https://forms.gle/d4KWsv4SexdZ2KQn6***

'Cisco WebEx' Link will be shared to all registered participants to their registered e-mail ID.

For details, contact Mob: 97420-65065 or e-mail: *gravitysciencefoundation@gmail.com*

Pak terrorist arrested in Mysuru gets 10-year jail

Was among two terrorists held in Vijayanagar 15 years ago; Accomplice lodged in J&K prison

Mysuru, May 30 (RK&BCT)- Fifteen years after two Pakistani terrorists were arrested after a gun battle in Mysuru, one of them was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the Principal City Civil and Sessions Court in Bengaluru on Apr. 22. A huge cache of arms, ammunition and satellite phones were seized from them.

Praveen Sood

The persons aged 24 (in 2006), Fahad alias Naduthuni alias Mohammad Koya and Ali Hussain alias Jahangir alias Khasi owed allegiance to the banned Pakistan-based Al-Badr outfit. While Fahad hailed from Nazeemabad in North Pakistan, Ali Hussain hailed from Hazara Division in Pakistan.

Fahad has been sentenced now for 25 years on all the counts charged by the Police and since the sentences run concurrently, he has to serve 10 more years in jail. Ali Hussain is presently lodged at a jail in Jammu and Kashmir. He is involved in several terror activities in J&K and his trial is pending.

Both were arrested by Vijayanagar Police near the High-Tension Road on the night of October 26, 2006. While Fahad, a post-graduate chemical engineer, was trained by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, Ali Hussain was a school drop-out and had entered India illegally.

When the arrests were made, the present Director General and Inspector General of Police Praveen Sood was the Mysuru City Police Commissioner. Meticulously planning the investigation, he even had convinced the Court about their terror activities that has now led to the conviction. In all, 20 persons were charge-sheeted including eight local residents. The others were from Jammu and Kashmir and foreign nationals.

Dateline, October 26, 2006

Travelling on a Hero Puch two-wheeler, the militants were intercepted by the Vijayanagar Police. Two constables and a militant were injured as the two terrorists opened fire, drawing retaliation from the Police.

At that time, the Central Intelligence Agencies had alerted the Police about designs of a foreign-based militant group for a spectacular or devastating strike in Bengaluru with an eye on Vidhana Soudha and Vikasa Soudha. Sketches of both the buildings, an AK-47 rifle, satellite phones with numbers of Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan, a laptop, chemicals used for making Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and detonators were seized from the house of the two militants.

Both had surveyed Vikasa Soudha and Vidhana Soudha and informed their bosses about less security in the former while awaiting logistical support for their planned action. The militants had also surveyed the Central Institute of Regional Languages (Now, Central Institute of Indian Languages - CIIL), Mysuru.

Ali Hussain was categorised as an 'A' category militant or a most dangerous terrorist by Jammu and Kashmir Police and carried a reward of Rs. 5 lakh on his head. He was involved in 12 cases in which 19 people were killed and four injured between March 2004 and June 2006, including a grenade attack on CRPF personnel in Jammu and Kashmir.

How terrorists got local help

Eight local persons were also were arrested in 2006 for helping the Pak terrorists get ration cards, birth certificates and domicile certificates and in filing passport applications. Those arrested then have already served their three-year sentence. Based on the false certificates, the terrorists had applied for passports. But their applications were rejected by the Police during verification.

A private deed writer in Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) had got Ali Hussain a false birth certificate in the name of Asif Khan. He also got a false domicile certificate and a residential proof certificate. A woman was produced who impersonated as Hussain's mother to obtain false documents.

The Mysuru Police had visited Kozhikode in Kerala to trace the links of Fahad and his visa had expired and he had no intention of getting it extended. Fahad needed a 'genuine cover' to stay in India without being noticed by the Police.

He had contacted his cousins in Kozhikode to help him in acquiring a passport in the name of Mohamed Koya and had paid two agents Rs. 20,000 for this. The attempt did not, however, succeed as the agent demanded Rs. 18,000 more which Fahad found to be an expensive deal. Fahad thought it would be easier to get a passport from Mysuru, where he was already trying to get one made for Hussain, using the agents in the MCC Regional Transport Office.

28 COVID patients die in Mysuru district on May 29

Mysuru, May 30 (KS)- A total of 28 COVID positive patients have died in the district yesterday bringing the cumulative deaths to 1,604. While Mysuru city reported 19 deaths, Mysuru taluk reported five deaths, one death each in K.R. Nagar, Periyapatna, Nanjangud and T. Narasipur taluks in the district.

The district yesterday recorded 1,720 positive cases with 2,176 patients getting discharged yesterday, the cumulative discharges till yesterday stood at 1,22,367. There are a total of 16,114 active cases in the district, according to the media bulletin.

COVID-19 lockdown violations

Police seize 489 vehicles in two days

Mysuru, May 30 (KS)- Continuing their drive on lockdown guidelines violators, City Police have seized a total of 489 vehicles on May 28 and 29 in city to initiate legal action.

On May 28, City Police (Traffic and Civil) seized a total of 265 vehicles including 245 two-wheelers, 14 cars and six autorickshaws which were found violating the guidelines and moving around freely on city roads.

On May 29, 224 vehicles including 205 two-wheelers, 16 cars and three other vehicles were seized after the vehicle owners were found violating the Government guidelines and moving around in city during lockdown hours.

City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta has urged the public to follow the lockdown guidelines and prevent themselves from being penalised.

Alleged rape: Kangana Ranaut's bodyguard arrested near K.R. Pet

K.R. Pet, May 30 (Srinivas& KS)- Mumbai Police have arrested the bodyguard of Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut on charges of alleged rape.

Kumar Hegde

He was arrested with the help of Kikkeri Police near K.R. Pet of Mandya district. The accused is Kumar Hegde of Heggadahalli in K.R. Pet taluk. Kumar is accused of raping a Mumbai woman on the pretext of marrying her.

It is alleged that Kumar had got acquainted with the aggrieved lady eight years back and proposed to marry her in June for which she had given her nod but later forcibly exploited her sexually.

Based on the complaint by the victim, the Police had registered case against Kumar under IPC Section 376 pertaining to rape and Section 420 (cheating).

Based on the said complaint, the Mumbai Police were scouting for Kumar and after they gathered information that he was in Heggadahalli, they arrived there and took him into custody.

He was produced before a Court at K.R. Pet before taking him to Mumbai.

Remainder of IPL 2021 to be held in UAE in September-October, says BCCI

New Delhi, May 30- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Saturday announced that the remainder of Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021 will be played in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Board decided to organise the remaining matches of IPL in the months of September and October considering the monsoon season in India in those months.

The decision was taken at BCCI's Special General Meeting held virtually on Saturday.

IPL 2021 had been postponed on May 4 after several players and support staff across teams tested positive for COVID-19.

As many as 29 matches were held this season before the tournament came to a halt. After two players in the KKR camp — Varun Chakravarthy and Sandeep Warrier — tested positive, KKR's match against Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) on May 3 was postponed. Soon after, with players from other teams also testing positive, the League was postponed altogether.

Obituary

Palaniswamy

Mysuru, May 30- Palaniswamy (54), a Group 'D' employee at K.R. Hospital and a resident of Navodaya Layout in J.P. Nagar here, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife Rani, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Jayanagar Burial Grounds here.

Kotegowda

Kotegowda (79), a resident of Nazarbad, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill this morning.

STAR OF MYSORE Sunday 30th May 2021 Page - 7

The Egyptian Pharaohs

By Ragoo Rao
Ethologist

The vultures are hungry; the vultures are waiting; as disgusting as a vulture eating… These are the phrases we use to describe a person as despicable — an obnoxious behaviour, more so at the dining table. In fact comparing a despicable man with a vulture is an insult to the latter and not the former. For, vultures are one of the most highly specialised birds to lead a life as the nature has ordained them. And they are perfect in that.

Vultures are nature's undertakers. They are the waste management specialists. Whatever living has to die. Several animals die, some killed by predators and some die a natural death by disease or injury. Predators devour their prey and eat up the fleshy parts, leaving the remaining carcass to other animals like foxes, boars, hyenas and such carrion feeders.

These feeders also take their choice and leave a lot of unwanted or uneatable parts of the carcass like their skin, viscera, bones and tough ligaments. This is when the specialists arrive — the vultures, to finish off the last remains. After their job, the place looks like a polished dinner plate with only a few strands of fur and congealed blood remaining.

The vultures are physiologically equipped to handle such tough and despicable remains of a dead animal. Their stomach acids can digest any tough ligament or tendon, bone or fur and they are equipped with such resistance that bacteria and other microbes present in the carcass — which would have killed any other animal devouring it — gets neutralised by the digestive system of vultures.

They are able to neutralise excretions too and they act like bactericide. Their bare legs, which are exposed to harmful germs while feeding, gets sanitised as they excrete a urine-like liquid on their feet and toes after a feeding session.

It is a misconception that vultures are filthy and foul-smelling birds. On the contrary, they are the cleanest of birds, regularly bathing and preening to keep themselves clean. To do this last rites chore of theirs, vultures wait patiently perched on nearby trees or keep circling the sky above the carcass till the initial feeders leave after having their fill.

The Egyptian vultures are called so because they have been worshipped in ancient Egyptian civilizations and there are mentions and pictures in the Egyptian hieroglyphs and statues. They are even nicknamed the 'Pharaoh's Chicken'. This is quite possibly owing to their golden mane-like crest, which gives them the Pharaoh's look.

There are three sub-species of Egyptian vultures and two of them are sighted in the Indian region. The Neophronpercnopterus, the nominate race habituating the North West India and Neophron p. ginginianus, slightly smaller than the Northern race and differing in colour and size of the beak and legs, habituating most of the Indian sub-continent, including Mysuru.

Nine Species of vultures in India

There are nine species of vultures in India, some occupying a niche place like the mountainous regions, grassland and deserts.

1. **King vulture** *(Sarcogyps calvus)*
2. **Cinereous vulture** *(Aegypius monachus)*
3. **Eurasian Griffon vulture** *(Gyps fulvus)*
4. **Himalayan Griffon vulture** *(Gyps himalayensis)*
5. **Long-billed vulture** *(Gyps indicus)*
6. **Slender-billed vulture** *(Gyps tenuirostris)*
7. **White-backed vulture** *(Gyps bengalensis)*
8. **Egyptian vulture** *(Neophron percnopterus)*
9. **Bearded vulture** *(Gypaetus barbatus)*

The largest of these nine species being the Himalayan Vulture - Gyps himalayensis and the smallest being the Egyptian Vulture - Neophron percnopterus (in Greek mythology, the belief is that a trickster, Neophron, was cursed and changed to be a vulture by Zeus and hence named Neophron and Percnopterus meaning black bordered wings).

Mysuru, with its wonderful lakes and small creeks, attracts a lot of Egyptian vultures during mid-day to quench their thirst. The old practice of discarding dead farm animals by lake sides were a blessing for vultures, especially the Egyptian vultures.

They can tolerate human presence to a certain extent and live on the fringes of human settlements, adjoining lakes and other water-bodies. Whenever a carcass was thrown at the lake side, vultures would descend and finish their job. Both humans and vultures gained from this.

NO END TO MAN'S GREED

Unfortunately, man cannot see anything beyond his own needs, that too, immediate needs. His ignorance and arrogance has spelt doom for all creatures. His greed has spoilt and killed many water bodies on which birds like Egyptian vultures thrive. Egyptian vultures which can digest and neutralise many bacteria in carcasses so easily, is not in a position to digest the chemical contaminants in water bodies.

Consequently, they started breeding less frequently and whatever they bred the hatchlings could not tolerate contaminated meat (poisoned rodents and dog carcasses). As a result, most of the hatched young do not make it to adulthood. So, the population of Egyptians vultures started dwindling.

Most of the culled chicken waste is dumped in lakesides and grasslands and vultures are attracted to this but are shooed away by packs of stray dogs. This is one more reason to go hungry and get decimated.

Still, the Egyptian vultures struggled to survive. Though scantily, they started to breed and raised their young. The final blow came from man again who cut tall nesting trees, especially the lone trees in open fields. Then the vultures selected cliff ledges and abandoned stone quarry cliffs. This kind of nesting sites is rare and many vultures skipped their breeding seasons.

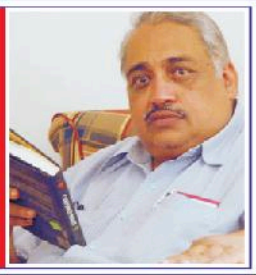
The Egyptian vultures, like all raptors have a long life span. The young take several years to mature into adulthood. The adult birds are beautiful with their white plumage and golden crests. The young have an entirely different coloured plumage. They are dark brownish with white and black blotches.

It takes about close to three years for a hatchling to enter adulthood with its impressive white plumage, golden flowing head crest, walking with the stride of a marching German soldier. One look at these magnificent birds makes recall the ancient Egypt and their Pharaohs. Should we allow the Egyptian vultures to go like the Egyptian civilization? Let us ask ourselves.

Reasons for death of vultures

- The major reason behind the vulture population getting nearly wiped out was the drug Diclofenac. It was found in the carcass of cattle on which the vultures feed.
- The drug was commonly administered to cattle to treat inflammation.
- Its veterinary use was banned in 2008 by the Government of India.
- Bioaccumulation (the gradual accumulation of substances, such as pesticides, or other chemicals in an organism) of Diclofenac caused kidney failure in vultures, leading to death.
- Diclofenac is dangerously fatal for vultures. Even 1 percent of it in carcass would kill the vulture in a short time after it feeds on such carcass.
- The poisoned carcasses were dumped to kill some local stray animals. But when vultures fed on them, it became one of the vital reasons leading to their death.
- It is imperative to manage our carcass dumps and make sure that poisoned carcasses are not dumped for the vultures to feed on.
- The Forest Department cremates the animal carcasses instead of burying them, to keep the poachers away. But this practice is denying food to vultures leading to their death out of starvation.

Over a cup of evening Tea



By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

Are we in a wrong kind of lockdown ?

Yesterday we in Mysuru District have entered a more stringent kind of anti-COVID lockdown than what we had seen over the last five weeks. I call it more stringent because it leaves only two days a week open for citizens to do their shopping for their daily needs. Although it is new for us, it is not for the first time that such a lockdown is being imposed in our country. In fact, many districts in our own State have right now been placed under similar restrictions and we are emulating it rather late now, although it is a different matter whether it helped them or not because that inference is still very unclear.

But as a practicing doctor, I consider the imposition of our latest form of lockdown nothing more than a 'Knee Jerk' response of our authorities to the raging COVID situation which certainly seems like a galloping mad horse refusing to be reined in. They just had to be seen doing something different. Not much scientifically or medically correct thought seems to have gone into the decision to implement it in their hurry.

I feel that while imposing the present stipulations of just two open days in a week, we perhaps did not do the right thing because on Friday we saw a glimpse of what it can do to a population desperate to beat the curfew hours and do its shopping for the forthcoming three days of total curfew. **Everywhere we saw closely packed people at every one of the shops, throwing fear and caution to the winds and extending their arms over each other's shoulders, with currency notes tightly clutched in their hands and desperately asking the clearly overworked shop-keepers for what they wanted. Social distancing had gone for a complete toss and it was nowhere to be seen.**

Only in the very few more orderly areas of our city, populated by very educated people, were they standing patiently in long queues for their purchases. In all other areas it was utter chaos with every possibility of becoming a law-and-order problem if the Police dared to interfere with the people's frenzied shopping mission. I don't entirely blame the people too for their very unreasonable behaviour because no one had told them how to do their shopping for a full three days in a very limited time of just four hours.

According to me, Friday was certainly a super-spreader day as far as the virus was concerned. If only the authorities had extended Friday's shopping window till about 4 pm, this mad rush could have been avoided. So, what kind of a lockdown do we need if it has to do us some real good. It should just prevent overcrowding of people in public and private places too, so that the prescribed physical distancing between two people is maintained at all times. This can be done quite easily by banning all social gatherings as we have already done and also by increasing the number of days and hours when people can come out and do their shopping. We should let our people do all kinds of their shopping leisurely, over six hours each day, for a full six days of the week with good social distancing under the watchful eyes of our Police personnel and then watch how overcrowding vanishes.

So according to me, Friday was certainly a super-spreader day as far as the virus was concerned. If only the authorities had extended Friday's shopping window till about 4 pm, this mad rush could have been avoided. And, if they are very serious about continuing this kind of a lockdown, I feel that this should be the minimum window if we have to benefit from the five-day curfew. **But has anyone in the corridors of power given a thought to how the poor and downtrodden can store their milk, meat, poultry and fish for a full three days without having refrigerators in their homes or will our government in its relief package soon include low-cost mini refrigerators too?**

There are rumblings that the lockdown across the State is very likely to be extended since it seems to be doing us good. But I feel that if this happens and if we here in **Namma Mysuru** continue to have our five-day curfew, our two weekly shopping days, with their insufficient four-hour windows, will certainly become super-spreader days for the virus.

And, talking of doctors, they seem to be good only for two things. Firstly, to bend their backs and treat at completely illogical and paltry, government specified rates, the multitudes of COVID patients who flock to their hospitals and secondly to bear the ingratitude of disgruntled people who complain that their charges are far too high! What an irony! Now that the Government has also said that hospitals should not demand any advance from COVID patients at the time of admission and also hand over the bodies of the patients who die, without insisting on settlement of their bills, can anything be more illogical? Has anyone given a thought to how hospitals should settle their own bills without patients settling their bills at the time of discharge?

The medical aspect of what makes an effective lockdown is something that no one seems to be asking experienced and senior doctors at the time of drafting rules and regulations as it seems to have happened in the case of the present lockdown too. All I can say without sounding overly critical is that it is completely unscientific.

So, what kind of a lockdown do we need if it has to do us some real good. The answer to this question will automatically become apparent to you if I tell you that an airborne viral infection spreads maximally only through close proximity. A lockdown to prevent this does not have to be very complex. **It should just prevent overcrowding of people in public and private places too, so that the prescribed physical distancing between two people is maintained at all times. That is the whole and sole requirement and nothing else.**

How we do it is up to us and I feel that we can achieve this by spreading out our people at all times. This can be done quite easily by banning all social gatherings as we have already done and also by increasing the number of days and hours when people can come out and do their shopping.

We should open business establishments of all kinds to enable their owners also to make a living. We should let our people do all kinds of their shopping leisurely, over six hours each day, for a full six days of the week with good social distancing under the watchful eyes of our Police personnel and then watch how overcrowding vanishes.

Let us be strict in enforcing working hours for business establishments and declare that the evening hours on all days are a time of complete curfew. **This restriction is very necessary because people tend to flock together for a mandatory daily round of gossip after their working hours, to complain about how tough life has become under lockdowns !** The post-shopping period should see something like a total curfew.

And, for how long should this restriction be enforced? **For the full duration of the time till COVID disappears completely from the scene in our country.** It is only because we failed here and allowed lavish weddings and unrestricted congregations of all kinds towards the end of the last year that we saw this second wave which seems to have come with a vengeance. **It may be a year or even more but we have to grin and bear this inconvenience. We simply have no other choice if we have to stay alive! So please do take care and stay safe and stay healthy!**

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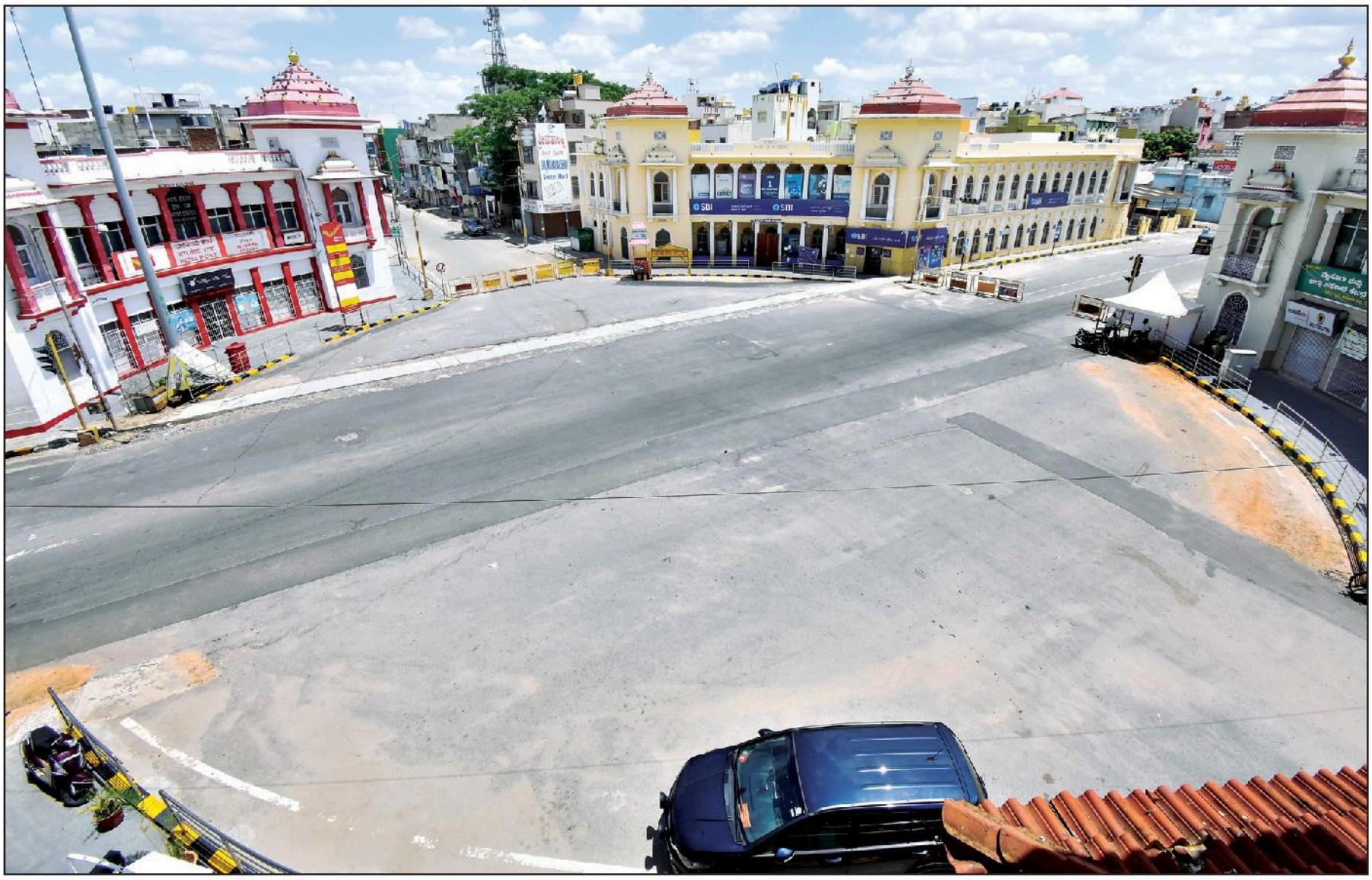
Tougher Lockdown: Day-2

Fearing vehicles seizure, people stay indoors



An aerial view of Nehru Circle that perfectly reflected the mood of the entire city this morning. [Pic. by M.N. Lakshminarayana Yadav]

Mysuru, May 30 (MTY&KS)- With almost all roads barricaded, shops closed and Police conducting checking, Mysureans preferred to stay indoors fearing seizing of their vehicles on the second day of the 10-day tougher lockdown today.

City Police — both Traffic and Civil — intensified their checking drive today by barricading almost all roads and checking the identity cards of motorists found moving around on their vehicles. A few were allowed to proceed only after ascertaining their nature of work, while around 80 vehicles were seized till 12 noon.

A few autorickshaws ferrying patients to hospitals and on emergency duty, vehicles carrying medicines and medical equipment and goods vehicles transporting essential commodities were allowed to ply on city roads. Cops manning check posts set up on many roads leading to city from various taluks also intensified their checking. The Cops stopped traders and others proceeding towards Mysuru at the check post and sent them back.

Meanwhile, checking of vehicles by the Police was stopped for almost an hour to allow the motorcade of District Minister S.T. Somashekar, who was on an inspection in city.

With no meat shops today and all shops shut, the city wore a deserted look except for a few emergency vehicles moving around. **Public have been allowed to make purchases of essentials only between 6 am and 12 noon on Mondays and Thursdays till the lockdown ends on June 7.**

Tulsidas Hospital to get oxygen-generating plant

(Continued from page 1)

A clean, hassle-free technology

Mentioning the technical details of the plant, Ajit Narayan said that Pressure Swing Adoption (PSA) Technology will be used in the plant where it is designed to produce on-site oxygen so that the dependency on oxygen cylinders is eliminated. The PSA oxygen plant is the cleanest, least troublesome and minimal maintenance-required plant, he added.

The air compressor compresses atmospheric air up to working pressure. After the dust particles are suspended, a coal tower absorbs traces of oil particles and other impurities. An air tank then acts as an accumulator for the pressure swing adsorption cycle.

PSA technology is used to separate gas species from a mixture of gases under pressure. The plant uses a clean technology that absorbs nitrogen from the air and extracts oxygen for supply to specific facilities. The oxygen thus generated can be supplied straight to the wards through a dedicated pipeline or compressed to fill cylinders. It uses molecular sieve technology to generate oxygen directly from atmospheric air.

A long-term solution

"The plant will bring a quick and long-term solution to the current oxygen crisis in Mysuru, reducing the dependence on liquid oxygen distribution channels that are stretched beyond their limits. The plant will deliver more than 90 percent oxygen concentration, only requiring power and water supply from the hospital," Ajit Narayan added.

Medical grade oxygen has an oxygen concentration between 90 percent and 96 percent. The remainder is principally argon and nitrogen. The plant can fulfil oxygen requirement of 80 beds at Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital and can produce 148 litres per minute, said Muralidhara.

MUDA to provide space

"Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) has constructed the hospital that is a top-notch one and in no way less than any big private hospital. When MBCT proposed a plan to donate an oxygenation plant to Mysuru, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev evinced keen interest and agreed to provide space and a platform at the Hospital to establish the plant," he explained. The staff for maintain and operationalise the plant will be given by MUDA.

According to a press release by T.N. Hemanth, MBCT Managing Trustee, in this unprecedented situation, the aim behind setting up PSA plant is to strengthen the public health system and ensure that this healthcare facility has a captive oxygen generation facility. "Such an in-house captive oxygen generation facility would address the day-to-day medical oxygen needs of Tulsidas Hospital and Mysuru district," he added.

Legislators bemoan shortage of drugs in Government Hospitals

Mysuru, May 30 (PM&DM)- The issue of shortage of drugs in Government Hospitals, including Primary Health Centres (PHCs), at a time when the deadly COVID pandemic is on a rampage in the district, reverberated at the District Minister S.T. Somashekar's meeting with people representatives at ZP hall here yesterday.

Soon as the meeting commenced, District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. T. Amarnath attributed the delay in drug delivery to COVID crisis. Maintaining that all Government Hospitals, including PHCs, are being supplied drugs dispatched by Karnataka State Drugs Logistics and Warehousing Society (KDLWS), he said that due to shortage of drugs, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) had permitted purchase of COVID medicines under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), following which medicines worth Rs. 25 lakh has been purchased.

Continuing, Dr. Amarnath said that medicines have been distributed to taluks based on indent. Noting that due to shortage of drugs last week, Legislators in some taluks had purchased medicines out of their own funds and support from donors and distributed them among PHCs, he said that, now, the medicines purchased out of SDRF funds will be supplied to all Government Hospitals.

Varuna MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah wanted to know till how long the medicines purchased now will last. The DHO replied that the medicine stocks will last at least for a fortnight.

Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda wanted to know medicine demand and supply data in respect of every Assembly segment of the district. Dr. Amarnath said that medicines have been purchased at a cost of Rs. 25 lakh and about 150 Government Hospitals in the district are being delivered drugs based on demand. The DHO further said that Distributors are delivering medicines in phases as they are also running short of stocks.

Devegowda further said that he has not appealed the DC to visit COVID Care Centres (CCCs) in his constituency for an inspection as he thought it was unnecessary. Measures have been taken to sanitise CCCs three times a day, he said and added that the Tahsildar and THO are managing the centres in his constituency.

K.R. Nagar MLA S.R. Mahesh said that he was very much unhappy about the alleged construction of a swimming pool in the DC's residential quarters at a time when there was dearth of funds for purchase of drugs. Wanting the DC to be a role model for everyone with her work, he strongly objected to the DC's style of functioning. He also took exception to the DC holding regular virtual meetings with the authorities as they were of little help. He wanted the District Administration to do more field works rather than wasting time on meetings.

MLA Dr. Yathindra and MP Pratap Simha questioned on whether the drugs available now are sufficient to meet demands, to which the DHO said that the State Government will provide medicines before the current stocks last.

Pratap Simha also wanted to know whether the District Administration was reimbursing funds to Legislators who are purchasing medicines out of their own money.

KR MLA S.A. Ramdas, who intervened, cautioned the DHO against giving wrong information. Asserting that he has received inputs about the availability of different types of medicines at KDLWS, Ramdas said that there was hardly 155 vitamin tablets as against the demand of 1 lakh.

Similar is the case in respect of other drugs, as there is stock of only 516 Paracetamol tablets as against the demand of 2 lakh and 27 out of the 47 types of COVID drugs were not available at all. Pointing out that this stock position was on May 13, he bemoaned that the existing stocks of medicines had dwindled further since then as on Thursday last.

Ramdas also displayed a letter written by the DHO mentioning that though the Government on May 22 has permitted the District Administration to purchase drugs without calling tenders, the District Administration is yet to issue an order on purchase of medicines. The MLA also wanted to know what the DHO was doing even after the Finance Department had released money.

MP Pratap Simha took the DHO to task for the mess concerning supply of medicines.

MLC A.H. Vishwanath said that there was no point in questioning the DHO and it is the DC who should answer. He also suggested appropriate usage of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) for tackling COVID.

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra, Hunsur MLA H.P. Manjunath, H.D. Kote MLA Anil Chikkamadu, MLC R. Dharmasena and others were present during the meeting.

District Minister takes DHO to task

District Minister S.T. Somashekar, after hearing the Legislators on shortage of drugs, came down heavily on the DHO. Asking the DHO to shun laxity and to work more harder, he questioned Dr. Amarnath why he had mislead him on medicine stocks each time he toured the district. Pointing at the DHO, Somashekar questioned him what he was unable to answer the Legislators who highlighted shortage of medicines in the district.

Asserting that it was his (Somashekar) responsibility to ensure that funds are released for procurement of drugs, he reiterated that Health Department officials should work with responsibility and with total commitment and determination for bringing down COVID caseload in the district.

After the District Minister admonished the DHO, MLA Ramdas said now that the Government has given a free hand to the District Administration, the authorities must act fast for procurement of stock of drugs for the entire district, sufficient for at least a month.

'No need for lockdown extension in Mysuru beyond June 7'

Commenting on the lockdown issue, District Minister Somashekar said that he was personally not for extension of the current lockdown beyond June 7. Pointing out that he will give the same opinion to the CM if he asked him, Somashekar said that it is almost two months since the enforcement of Janata Curfew and the subsequent lockdown.

Highlighting that problems would become far more bigger if the lockdown is further extended, he opined that with dwindling COVID cases, there was no need for lockdown extension beyond June 7. However, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa will take a decision in this regard after consulting all his Cabinet colleagues, he added.

Stating that he has taken stock of COVID management in all the 11 Assembly segments of the district through respective MLAs, he said that 70 percent of the door-to-door survey on COVID testing has been completed so far and full completion is expected in a couple of days. ASHA workers and other health workers are visiting all houses for checking COVID symptoms among the residents, he added.

Verbal duel between Pratap Simha and Rohini Sindhuri continues

The verbal duel between MP Pratap Simha and DC Rohini Sindhuri has continued.

At the meeting, an upset DC wanted to know what work the MP wanted to get her done. Asking the MP not to make such remarks against her, the DC said that she knew her responsibility as head of the District Disaster Management Authority.

Pratap Simha, responding to the DC, wanted Rohini Sindhuri to understand the difference between Administrative and Executive powers. Asserting that the Executive has the power to overrule Administrative authority, the MP said that the DC must not think that Administrative power is supreme. Executive has the power to change a DC, he claimed.

When T. Narasipur MLA Ashwin Kumar suggested that Tahsildars be given the powers for drugs purchase, Simha lashed out at the DC for the delay in procurement of drugs, saying that the delay could be considered as an act of negligence.

The DC, who strongly objected to this remark, said that the delay can be attributed to KDLWS, which is the authority for procurement of drugs.

Contending that there is no provision for purchase of drugs under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), she said that still, the District Administration has taken special permission from the Government for releasing funds under this head in order to address drugs shortage issue in the district.

DC says the MP turned against her for ordering shutting down of COVID Care Centres

Frequently objecting to the MP Pratap Simha's remarks during the meeting, DC Rohini Sindhuri alleged that the MP was issuing statements against her for shutting down private COVID Care Centres (CCCs), which were ordered to close down for violation of Government COVID Care guidelines.

Responding to the DC's charge, Simha asserted that he had no connection nor had any personal interest with COVID centres. Asking the DC not to make such frivolous charges against him, he alleged that the DC has formed a WhatsApp group with the media to target him. Maintaining that he was against personal attacks, Pratap Simha said that he would have publicly raised the issue of alleged construction of a swimming pool in the DC residential quarters, had he wanted to make any personal attacks against her. The MP once again targeted Rohini saying that she was making calls to his party leaders.

'Appoint Pourakarmikas in the ratio of 1:500 population'

Safai Karmachari Commission Chairman writes to Chief Minister

Bengaluru, May 30- Karnataka State Safai Karma-chari Commission Chairman Kote M. Shivanna has appealed Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa to have one Pourakarmika per 500 population.

In a letter to the Chief Minister, Shivanna said that at present, there is one Pourakarmika per 700 population in Bengaluru's BBMP and other urban civic bodies in the State, including Mysuru City Corporation. But in the wake of growing population and the corresponding rise in waste generation, it is essential to have a Pourakarmika for every 500 population, he said.

Pointing out that the Government had earlier decided to appoint Pourakarmikas for every 500 population, he said Pourakarmikas and Union leaders, taking note of this, are exerting pressure on the Commission for appointment.

Noting that the population in Mysuru and other cities and towns have multiplied since the last 10 years, Shivanna said that he has personally witnessed the plight of Pourakarmikas who work under trying conditions.

Maintaining that Poura-karmika leader IPD Salappa (IPD Salappa Committee Report) had recommended the then D. Devaraj Urs Government in 1977 for having a Public-Pourakarmika in the ratio of 1:500, he said that Bengaluru's National Law School of India, which studied Pourakarmika issues in 2020-21 too has recommended the same. As such the Government should take measures to appoint Pourakarmikas in the ratio of 1:500 population for better redressal of civic issues in the State, he said in his letter.

Vaccination begins for medical store owners and employees at Raghulal

Vaccination for owners and employees of medical stores began at Raghulal Surgicals in city on Friday. Assistant Drugs Controller (ADC) Nazia inaugurated the drive in the presence of Raghulal & Co. and Raghulal Surgicals Proprietor N. Raghavan, Medicine Distributor Chandragupta V. Jain and others. At the venue, Covishield is being administered only to those in the age group of 18-44 years. No walk-in is allowed and eligible people should register online by sending e-mail to: adcmys2.dcd-ka@nic.in; People requiring second dose will not be entertained.

Ration kits distributed to more than 60 theatre artistes

Mysuru, May 30 (SPN&DM)- The city's Sri Rajeshwari Vastralankara Samsthe, in association with Akhila Karnataka Sharana Sahitya Parishat, distributed ration kits to over 60 artistes at a programme organised at Professional Women Theatre Artistes Welfare Association office premises in Agrahara here on Friday. Each kit contained 10-kg of rice and wheat, cooking oil and other ration articles.

District Sharana Sahitya Parishat President M. Chandrashekar, Kannada and Culture Department personnel Basavaraj, Ismail, H.V. Bhaskar, Yashoda Ramachandra, artistes Nagaraj Sangapura, Sulochana, M.R. Manjunath and others were present.

Auto, taxi drivers apply online for financial aid

Mysuru, May 30 (KS)- Auto and taxi drivers, who are without business and facing deep financial crisis following COVID lockdown, have filed online applications for financial aid, announced by the Government.

The online applying process was initiated by MUDA Member Naveen Kumar and Mysuru Yuva Balaga and the online applications were uploaded at an internet centre near Sadvidya Circle.

Speaking on the occasion, Naveen said that lakhs of labourers, drivers and other daily wagers were caught in deep financial crisis following the lockdown by the Government to contain the spread of the deadly virus and added that CM B.S. Yediyurappa has stood by the side of working class people by announcing financial aid to them.

Pointing out that the financial aid should reach the correct beneficiary, Naveen said that auto and taxi drivers were brought together and the applications were uploaded online.

Provide immediate relief for family of ASHA, Anganwadi workers who died of COVID

Bengaluru, May 30 (UNI)- Former Karnataka Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly Siddharamaiah on Saturday urged the State Government to immediately distribute relief to the families of ASHA and Anganwadi workers who died due to COVID-19.

In a letter to Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa, he dema-nded immediate release of salary of Corona Warriors — ASHA activists, Anganwadi workers, Village Panchayats, teachers, Health Department, Police, Revenue, Transport Department, Urban Local Bodies, Veterinarians and others who are directly involved in dealing with Coronavirus.

Stating that it is the prime responsibility of the Government to provide them with special protection, he alleged that the Government has not yet announced the staff of several Departments as Corona Warriors. Those who have already declared themselves as Warriors of Corona have not been paid salaries for the past two to three months.

In addition, ASHA workers, Anganwadi activists and Government-level personnel were not provided basic equipment such as masks, sanitisers and gloves to protect themselves from Corona. Some of those who have been declared Warriors of Corona have died. But only the families of the three have been compensated. A similar situation exists in all Departments, he said.

Rotary Ivory City Mysuru provides COVID relief

Members of Rotary Ivory City Mysuru are doing their bit in the fight against the dreaded COVID pandemic along with members of other social service organisations in the city. In appreciation of the commendable efforts of Asha Kirana Trust, Kalyani Meritor and Madras Medical College in setting up the 80-Bed Hospital on KRS Road, they have been donated a sum of Rs. 50,000 to the project; The Club has donated Rs. 10,000 to the Downs Syndrome project of Asha Kirana; The Rotary Clubs in Zone 7 have been organising breakfast and lunch for needy families at a number of locations such as Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, CITB Choultry and District War Room. Rotary Ivory City has donated Rs. 35,000 for this effort; The Club has supplied needed groceries to 25 families through a number of organisations. Seen in the picture are Dr. H.V.T. Swamy, K.S. Gururaj, Rtn. Sunil Baliga, Dr. S.N. Mothi, Rotary Ivory President Rtn. B. Harish (handing over cheque for Rs. 50,000), Rtn. Ifthikar Ahmed and Rtn. S. Balachandar.

Maternity Section inaugurated at Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital

Minister hints at relaxation after June 7, due to fall in positive cases

District Minister S.T. Somashekar, MLAs Tanveer Sait, L. Nagendra and S.A. Ramdas, MP Pratap Simha, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev and others seen during their inspection of the Operation Theatre of the new Maternity Section at Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital this morning.

Mysuru, May 30 (MTY& SSV)- District-in-Charge Minister S.T. Somashekar said there may be phase-wise relaxation in district after June 7 due to steady fall in Corona positive cases and deaths. However, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa will take a decision on extending or ending total lockdown during next week as restriction will end on June 7. The CM has been in consultation with the Ministers, legislators and district officers before taking a decision.

Speaking to reporters after opening the Maternity Section for COVID infected pregnant women at Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital here this morning, he said the 50 bed ward was prepared as the COVID-19 dedicated Maternity Hospital in Jayalakshmipuram was full. In view of this, a new section was opened this morning with Operation Theatre and Labour Ward set up on war footing with the co-operation of MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev and Krishna Raja MLA S.A. Ramdas. I came to know there has been shortage of staff and it will be addressed soon.

Pointing out that the house-to-house survey for early detection and treatment of infected persons was supposed to end on May 31, the Minister said that already, 60-70 per cent of houses have been covered in district and added that the survey will be delayed by another 3 to 4 days. Once it is complete, they will get a clear picture.

The positivity and mortality rate was coming down with hardly 20- 30 cases per every 1,000 tests. Even the house-to-house survey has detected around 25 to 30 positive cases out of 1,000 persons. Such patients have been shifted to COVID Care Centres. In rural areas, ASHA and Anganwadi workers are doing this survey, he noted.

On Prime Minister Narendra Modi announcing a scheme for taking care of children who are orphaned following death of patients due to Coronavirus, the Minister said that JSS Mutt has received 280 applications from all over the State seeking free education and boarding. Still the number of children who lost their parents, was not known. It will be known at the earliest, he added.

Even after phased manner relaxation, the existing COVID Care Centres will continue to function for the shifting of home isolated patients. The opinions of all MLAs and other elected representatives was being taken on lockdown extension. The aim was to make Mysuru free from Corona. Already, there are indications of fall in positive cases and deaths both in city and rural areas. It is definitely a good sign, Somashekar said.

MLAs S.A. Ramdas, L. Nagendra and Tanveer Sait, MP Pratap Simha, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, MUDA Commissioner Dr D.B. Natesh, Zoo Authority of Karnataka Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy, Jungle Lodges and Resorts Chairman Appanna, DHO Dr. T. Amarnath and others were present.

Pratap Simha fires fresh salvo at DC: Launching a tirade against DC Rohini Sindhuri again, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha has warned her not to test patience of the elected representatives any more as there was limit for everything.

Speaking to reporters after the inauguration of the Maternity Section at Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital this morning, the MP said that the district was allotted 45 ventilators under PM Cares scheme for the Super- Speciality Hospital, which is still not installed for want of technicians. This shows the DC's failure to get the things done, he added. " We will wait till May 31 for the installation of the said ventilators, failing which we will go and fix it," the MP said and added that the DC has to explain that from which money she had got the swimming pool constructed at her official residence.

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Meat lovers rush to Mandya

(Continued from page 1)

"We are buying more today as we are not sure whether meat shops in Mysuru city will open tomorrow (Monday) as many do not eat non-veg," said a resident Vijayanagar Second Stage. As the meat shops drew crowds, people were seen buying meat in a hurry fearing that the Police might come any time to stop the sales as a precautionary measure against COVID-19 since social distancing was hardly maintained.

The Mandya District Administration had announced complete lockdown for four days from May 25 and the curbs ended yesterday. This also led to the extra rush for meat today. "As per the orders issued by Mandya Deputy Commissioner S. Ashwathi, the district was totally closed for four days from May 25 to 29. No stalls, including vegetable, fruits, meat stalls, were allowed to open during this period," Srirangapatna Tahsildar M.V. Roopa told *Star of Mysore*.

KRS Panchayat Development Officer Rafiq said that locally they had tried to put some restrictions as it was common for people crowd at meat and fish markets. "When we tried to impose curbs, the merchants and purchasers objected and they questioned us at a time when the government is allowing purchases why the Panchayat was restricting buying," he said.

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ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಮೈಸೂರು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಮೈಸೂರು/ಹುಣಸೂರು/ಟಿ.ನರಸಿಪುರ / ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ.ಕೋಟೆ/ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ/ಕ.ಆರ್.ನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು (ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ಬೆಂಗಳೂರುರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪತ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಬಿ1/ಬಿಯುಡಿ/ಸಿಆರ್.12/2020-21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.3.2021 ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಮೈಸೂರು ವೃತ್ತ, ಮೈಸೂರುರವರ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ 2021-22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡುತೋಪುಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಅರಣ್ಯೀಕರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾದ 2021-22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮುಂಗಾರು ನೆಡುತೋಪು, ಮುಂದುವರೆದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾದ ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಪೋಷಣೆ, ಸಸಿಗಳ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪೋಷಣೆ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನೆಡುತೋಪುಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದಿನ ಐದು ವರ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ **ಮೂರನೇ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಂತಿಮ ಬಾರಿಗೆ** ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ 2021-22 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಅರ್ಧಿಕ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳಿಸಬೇಕಾದ್ದರಿಂದ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಷ್ಟಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನೊಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲು ದಿ: 15.6.2021ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ದಿ: 16.6.2021 ರಂದು ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 4.15 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

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ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

DIPR/DDMYS/MCA/168/2021-22

Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.